

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 01505 192101Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
TRSE-00 OMB-01 /069 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8116  
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT AU PRINCE 1505

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, HA  
SUBJ: PRESIDENT DUVALIER CREATES QUASI-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

1. HAITIAN PRESIDENT JEEN CLAUDE DUVALIER ANNOUNCED ON APRIL 13 THE FORMATION OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF JEAN CLAUDIST ACTION (CONAJEC). SPEAKING TO A LIVE TELEVISION AND RADIO AUDIENCE, DUVALIER SAID THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE NEW ORGANIZATION WOULD BE TO REINFORCE AND TO COHERE NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE ACTIVITIES, TO CONSOLIDATE POPULAR BASES OF "JEAN CLAUDISM", AND TO PURSUE THE PROCESS OF DEMOCRATIZATION AND LIBERALIZATION. (DUVALIER EMPHASIZED THAT THE LATTER GOAL SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS A NATIONAL REALITY AT THE PRESENT TIME.)

2. THE ONLY SPECIFIC TASK ASSIGNED TO CONAJEC BY DUVALIER IS THE ORGANIZATION OF A TRAINING SCHOOL FOR RURAL POLICE OFFICERS IN ORDER "TO REMOVE THE NUMEROUS BOTTLENECKS STRANGLING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRYS WE."

3. NAMED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF CONAJEC ARE JOSEPH RENE, THE EDITOR OF "L'ASSAUT", THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF JEAN  
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CLAUDISM; JEAN MONTES LEFRANC, FORMER EDUCAZZON MINISTER AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF "L'ASSAUT", RONY GILOT, PHYSICIAN, LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEPUTY, AND POMINENT MEMBER OF THE MILITIA (VSN); EDOUARD C. PAUL, A FORMER DIRECTOR OF ONAAC, THE GOVERNMENT LITERACY AGENCY; FRANCK GILLES, THE PRESENT DIRECTOR OF ONAAC; AND JACQUES NICAISSSE, AN ENGINEER BELIEVED TO WORK FOR THE METROPOLITAN WATER COMPANY

(CAMEP). ALL ARE CLOSE TO MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO HENRI YAYARD WHO IS REPORTEDLY CONAJEC'S ARCHITECT.

4. DUVALIER ALSO NAMED A GROUP OF FIFTEEN PROMINENT HAITIANS AS COUNSELORS TO CONAJEC, INCLUDING, AMONG OTHERS, THE ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF, THE NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE VSN AND THE PRELATES OF THE CATHOLIC AND EPISCOPAL CHURCHES. SEVERAL OF THE COUNSELORS WERE GIVEN NO ADVANCE NOTICE OF THEIR APPOINTMENTS, AND ONE OF THEM HAS PRIVATELY STATED HE MAY DISASSOCIATE HIMSELF FROM THE COMMITTEE.

5. ON THE OTHER HAND, PRESUMABLY IN RESPONSE TO INSTRUCTIONS, NUMEROUS INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS, INCLUDING THE ARMY HIERARCHY AND CIVIL AUTHORITIES, ARE PUBLICLY DECLARING THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE NEW ORGANIZATION. THERE IS ALREADY TALK OF MASSIVE DEMONSTRATIONS IN SUPPORT OF CONAJEC AND PRESIDENT DUVALIER ON APRIL 21/22, THE 7TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRANCOIS DUVALIER'S DEATH AND HIS SON'S ACCESSION TO POWER.

6. IT IS TOO EARLY TO PREDICT WHAT THE PRECISE ROLE OF CONAJEC WILL BE. ASIDE FROM THE SHORT PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH, NO OFFICIAL EXPLANATION HAS BEEN GIVEN OF ITS PURPOSE. SOME HAITIANS, INCLUDING THE EDITOR OF GADFLY WEEKLY "LE PETIT SAMEDI SOIR", SEE CONAJEC AS THE LONG-RUMORED GOVERNMENT POLITICAL PARTY. ONE SOURCE TELLS US THAT CONAJEC WAS PURPOSELY MADE A COMMITTEE AND NOT A PARTY SO AS NOT TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SET A PRECEDENT FOR THE FORMATION OF A PARTY OR PARTIES OPPOSED TO THE GOVERNMENT. NONETHELESS THE COMMITTEE IS ALMOST CERTAINLY INTENDED TO HAVE A ROLE IN SELECTING AND ELECTING CANDIDATES IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS EARLY NEXT YEAR.

7. EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE FURTHER ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION ON CONAJEC AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.  
JONES

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES, COMMITTEES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Markings:**  
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